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1991

# A HANDFUL OF TRAILS

Willamette National Forest



USDA • Forest Service  
Pacific Northwest Region



Photo by Roger & Donna Aitkenhead

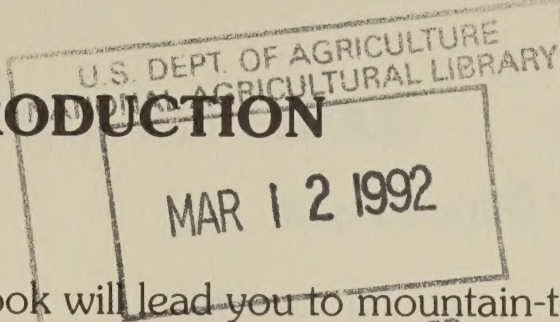
*The trails provide many bird-watching opportunities.*

Cover photo by Roger & Donna Aitkenhead

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# INTRODUCTION



The trails included in this book will lead you to mountain-top vistas, lakes, waterfalls and old-growth forests, towering second-growth forests, rocky bluffs and alpine meadows. We've included a variety of trails:

- short walks for those seeking fresh air and a place to stretch their legs
- medium length trails requiring a few hours to make a round trip
- longer hikes that may require an overnight trek

Mileage is listed for one-way travel. Loop hikes and needs for special equipment are identified in the trail description.

You will encounter more wildflowers than you know existed. Most animals will know you are coming, and the keen eye may find evidence of where they passed by.

Most trails were built many years ago, when they were the only transportation routes through the Forest. From time to time you may discover old signs pointing to places fallen out of use.

Your forest adventure will lead you through knee-deep salal, fern, and bear grass. You will pass below spreading branches of western red cedar, Douglas-fir, hemlock, Pacific yew, and many other species.

A forest hike can be a time of discovery. Please remember to carry ALL refuse back to the car with you and enjoy your National Forests.

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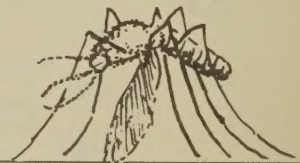
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# 10 ESSENTIALS FOR A DAY TRIP

If you are a newcomer to hiking in Oregon, a few words of caution: weather is unpredictable and changes rapidly. Your trip will be more pleasant if you are prepared for rain or snow even on a sunny summer day. Water found along the trail should **always** be treated if you decide to drink it. The 10 essentials you should carry include:

1. **Map and compass.**
2. **Flashlight - alkaline batteries.**
3. **Matches, candle or firestarter - make sure matches are protected.**
4. **Small knife.**
5. **First aid kit - carry items that take care of blisters, headaches, etc.**
6. **Sunglasses, sunscreen and mosquito repellent.**
7. **Mirror and whistle.**
8. **Raingear and extra clothing.**
9. **Water - at least one quart.**
10. **Extra food - high energy snack such as candy, jerky or meat bars.**



## **A NOTE ON MOSQUITOES**

June and July are usually the months when mosquitoes are a problem in the higher elevations and around lakes. A pleasant trip may be spoiled if precautions are not taken. Mosquito repellent and mosquito netting are good insurance during this time.



# TRAIL TERMINOLOGY

Difficulty ratings, based on use by hikers, are given near the beginning of each trail entry. Barrier-free difficulty ratings are included in the trail description.

## **EASY**

---

- Hiker - free of obstacles, sustained grades up to 10%, safe and well marked travelways.
- Barrier free - free of all obstacles, grades of 1-3% for a distance of 80 feet, treads of concrete or asphalt, distance up to .5 mile, rest stops every 100 - 150 feet.

## **MODERATE**

---

- Hiker - may have roots and imbedded rocks in tread, sustained grades up to 20%.
- Barrier free - free of obstacles, grades of 3-6% for a distance of 160 feet, treads of asphalt, soil cement, or very fine compacted, crushed rock, distance from .5 to 1.5 miles, rest stops every 400 - 500 feet.

## **DIFFICULT**

---

- Hiker - will have roots, imbedded rocks and other obstacles in tread, sustained grades up to 30%.
- Barrier free - hard packed surface with some rocks and roots, grades 6-8% for a distance of 60 feet, rest stops every 800 feet.

# LEGEND

This trail brochure contains several symbols. The following will identify the symbols used to indicate user and opportunities for each trail.



hiker



photo opportunity



horse



fishing access



mountain bike



barrier free



motorcycle



interpretive



swim access



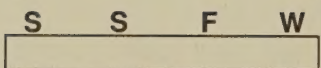
old growth



Ranger Station



camping



= This symbol identifies the season in which the trail is open for use. The graph begins with spring and goes through the winter. If the entire graph is shaded, the trail is open year round.

# SCENIC TRAILS

**WALDO LAKE # 3590**

**Map # 44**

Length: 22 miles  
Difficulty: Difficult  
District: Oakridge

Season: 

S	S	F	W
---	---	---	---

User: 

				
---	---	--	---	---

This loop trail around Waldo Lake meanders gently through rolling forest-covered hills, except in the area south of Green Lake. There, the trail has several short, fairly steep pitches. For much of the trail's length, the hiker can view this deep blue lake, which is one of the world's purest. Primitive campsites dot the lakeshore, and meadows and a shelter at the south end of the lake invite overnight stays.

Two short shoreline trails offer safe, convenient access points from N. Waldo, Islet and Shadow Bay Campgrounds. (They are restricted to hiker use only.) Benches beside the trails offer a peaceful place to rest and contemplate this beautiful area.

**Access:** From Eugene, follow Hwy 58 south. Proceed east of Oakridge on Hwy 58, for 27 miles, to Waldo Lake Road #5897. Follow Road 5897 about 13 miles to North Waldo Campground. The trailhead is on the north side of the boat launch parking area.

*Waldo Lake near Islet Campground*



## INDIGO LAKE # 3649

Map # 37

Length: 1.9 miles

Difficulty: Easy

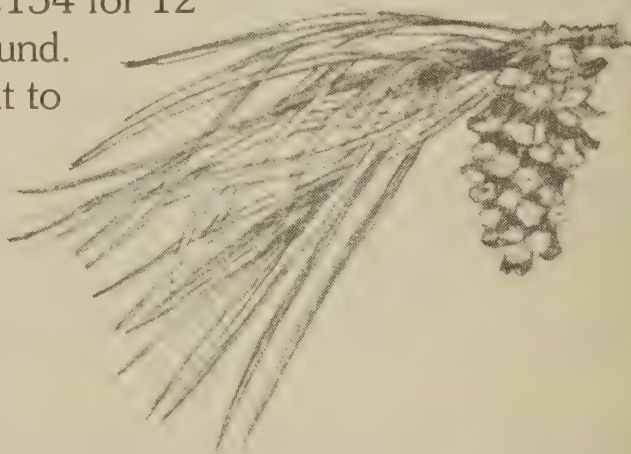
District: Rigdon

Season: 

User: 

This trail winds through open stands of mountain hemlock, Pacific silver fir, and high mountain meadows before reaching Indigo Lake. Named for its intense, deep blue color, the lake lies nestled below the jagged Sawtooth Ridge. A small, primitive campground invites you to spend the night. Bring a fishing pole to coax lively rainbow or cut-throat trout onto your line.

**Access:** From Eugene proceed south on Hwy 58. Follow Hwy 58 for 2 miles east of Oakridge. Turn right onto the Kitson Springs Road. Turn right onto FS Road 21. Follow Road 21 for 32 miles to Road 2154; turn left. Follow Road 2154 for 12 miles to Timpanogas Campground. The trailhead is located adjacent to the campground.




## BROWDER RIDGE #3409


Map # 11

Length: 3.7 miles

Difficulty: Moderate

District: Sweet Home

Season: 

User: 

The beginning of this trail climbs steeply through alpine meadows into a second-growth forest. After a few miles, it levels out, and views of Mt. Jefferson, Mt. Washington, and Three Sisters make the uphill workout worthwhile. Diminutive Heart Lake can be reached from a short, unmarked side trail.

**Access:** From I-5 drive east on Hwy 228 or Hwy 20 to Sweet Home. Continue east for 33 miles on Hwy 20 to Deer Creek Road (FS Road 15) and turn left. Continue 2.5 more miles and turn left on Spur Road 080. Drive .5 miles to the trailhead on the left.

## OLALLIE LAKE # 3529

Map # 19

Length: 9.7 miles

Difficulty: Moderate

District: McKenzie

Season: 

S	S	F	W
---	---	---	---

User:



The trail traverses the length of the Olallie Ridge, which separates Horse Creek and the East Fork of the McKenzie River above Cougar Reservoir. It reveals a variety of plant communities as it zig zags between old-growth Douglas-fir and beautiful alpine meadows. Wildflowers grace the meadows throughout the summer months.

The trail passes through Olallie Ridge Research Natural Area. The area was established in 1963 to provide an opportunity for scientific studies of changes in plant communities.

**Access:** #1. East of Eugene, on Hwy 126, in the town of McKenzie Bridge, turn left onto Horse Creek Road (Forest Service Work Center sign). Drive 2 miles, then turn right onto Wapiti Road #1933. Drive 3 more miles up this road to reach the trailhead.

#2. About 7 miles further up Wapiti Road # 1993 is Horsepasture Saddle: look for the hiker symbol along the road.

*Sword ferns grow on a root wad.*



## TIRE MOUNTAIN # 3485

Map # 26

Length: 6.0 miles

Difficulty: Moderate

District: Lowell

Season:

User:

This is an interesting ridge line trail. Climbing up numerous switchbacks, it passes beneath stubby old growth. At 4 miles, the .5-mile side trail to the summit of Tire Mountain turns to the south. An early fire lookout, consisting of a topped tree with a ladder and platform (often referred to as a “crow’s nest”) once reigned over the vistas from the top of Tire Mountain. Continue ahead to access the Alpine Trail and to reach the upper trailhead.

**Access:** #1. From Eugene, drive 18 miles south to Lowell. At the Lowell Ranger Station, drive 13 miles east along North Shore Road, #5821. Turn left onto FS Road 5824, and continue to spur 124; turn left. The trailhead is a half a mile up spur 124.

#2. Take Hwy 58, 35 miles south of Eugene to the Westfir exit, just south of the Oakridge Ranger Station. Continue up the North Fork of the Willamette River to FS Road 1910. Turn left, across the river. Turn left onto FS Road 1911 and go to the Alpine Trailhead. Use the Alpine trail to reach the Tire Mountain trail, which is approximately 1 mile south.

## GATE CREEK #3412

Map # 10

Length: 3.1 miles

Difficulty: Moderate

District: Sweet Home

Season:

User:

Leading you through an ancient old-growth forest, sweeping alpine meadows, and true fir stands, this trail is the eastern access to the Browder Ridge area. A little less strenuous than the western access, a gradual climb up shady, forested switchbacks leads you to a plateau with views of Mt. Jefferson, Mt. Washington, and the Three Sisters. Tiny Heart Lake can be reached from a short 0.8 mile, unmarked side trail.

**Access:** From I-5 drive east on Hwy 228 or Hwy 20 to Sweet Home. Continue on Hwy 20 east for 33 miles to Deer Creek Road (15) and turn right. Follow this road for 3 miles and turn left on Road 1598. Continue 5 miles to the trailhead on the left.

# OLD-GROWTH TRAILS



Children enjoy a hike on an old-growth trail near Oakridge.

## **BIG SWAMP GROVE via MIDDLE FORK #3609**      **Map # 36**

Length: 2.0 miles

Difficulty: easy

District: Rigdon

Season: 

S	S	F	W

User:




Come explore the quiet beauty of an old-growth forest, where trees can be up to six feet in diameter and over 350 years old. The trees found in this designated old-growth grove include towering Douglas-fir, lacey-leaved western red cedar, prickly Engleman spruce, and lazy topped western hemlock. Big Swamp, a large marshy meadow with diverse vegetation, is adjacent to the old-growth grove and together they provide excellent habitat for big game and other watchable wildlife.

**Access:** From Eugene take Hwy 58 S.E. to Oakridge. Continue on Hwy 58 for 2 miles beyond Oakridge. Turn right onto Kitson Springs Road and continue for about .5 mile. Turn right onto Forest Road 21 and proceed 32 miles south until you meet FS Road 2153. Follow 2153 approximately 3.5 miles to the trailhead.

## LONE WOLF/PATTERSON MTN #3470

Map # 29

Length: 2.5 miles  
Difficulty: Easy to Mod\*  
District: Lowell

Season: 

User: 

### \*Difficult for people with disability

Skirting a stand of young trees, this trail weaves through meadows and dusky, quiet stands of old-growth Pacific silver fir and Douglas-fir. Just past .5 miles, Lawler Trail #3473 branches to the right. Be sure to watch for this junction on your **return trip** and keep to the right (uphill). Leveling out, the trail continues to wander between small meadows and park-like stands of old, weather-worn trees.


Look for the historic Lone Wolf shelter about a mile out, on the right. It is visible from the trail and is accessed by a short path on the right. In 1990 the trail was extended 1.5 miles to the west end of Patterson Mtn., where a large rocky viewpoint provides an overview of the Willamette Valley and surrounding foothills.

**Access:** Drive 16 miles southeast of Eugene on Hwy 58 past the Lowell Junction and turn right onto FS Road 5847. Continue 8 miles and turn right onto spur 555. The trailhead is .25 miles up this spur, on the right.

## DELTA NATURE LOOP #3317

Map # 18

Length: 0.5 miles  
Difficulty: Easy  
District: Blue River

Season: 

User: 

All ages can enjoy this short, self-guided interpretive nature trail. Pick up a brochure at the trailhead and let it lead you into a world of wonder. Use every sense to fully appreciate the beauty of this grove, where 200- to 500-year old Douglas-fir and western red cedar grow.


**Access:** From Eugene, travel east on Hwy 126 to Blue River. Continue .5 miles on Hwy 126 and turn right on Road 19 (Aufderheide Drive). Just after you cross the bridge, turn right into Delta Campground. The trail starts just beyond the first few campsites.



## HACKLEMAN OLD-GROWTH LOOP #3411


Map # **8**

Length: 0.8 miles

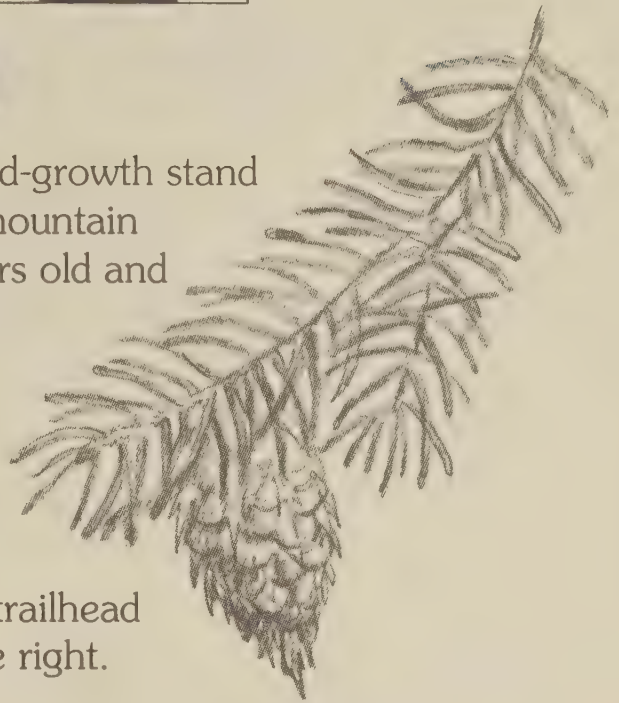
Season: 

Difficulty: Easy

District: Sweet Home

User: 

This short loop trail circles a “classic” old-growth stand of Douglas-fir, western red cedar, and mountain hemlock. Some trees are over 500 years old and have survived floods, fire, and logging activities.



**Access:** From I-5 drive east on Hwy 126 or Hwy 20 to Sweet Home. Continue east on Hwy 20 for 37 miles to Spur Road 065 and turn right. The trailhead is down the road a short distance on the right.

## HUMBUG FLATS #3336

Map # **2**

Length: 1.0 miles

Season: 

Difficulty: Easy

District: Detroit

User:     

Enjoy a scenic stroll through an old-growth forest, along dancing and tumbling Breitenbush River. Beginning or experienced anglers, don't pass up the bountiful fishing opportunities in the main stem of the Breitenbush. May through July, the rhododendrons put on a spectacular show, blooming in various shades of pink.

**Access:** From Salem, drive east on Hwy 22 to Detroit. From Detroit turn northeast on Breitenbush Road (Road 46) and drive 3.5 miles to Humbug Campground and turn left. The trail begins on the right just behind sites 9 and 10.



## HOUSE ROCK LOOP #3406

Map # **9**

Length: 0.8 miles

Season: 

Difficulty: Easy

District: Sweet Home

User:



Follow the trail over the bridge and stay to the right. As you walk, pause a moment and listen to the soft gurgle of Squaw Creek. Follow the path to the left at the next trail junction near the alder trees. Listen to the changing sounds of the water as you approach House Rock Falls. The 40-foot falls are especially spectacular in spring. On your return trip stay to your right and look for House Rock, a huge overhanging boulder which sheltered early inhabitants and travelers from harsh winter storms. Bring your lunch and enjoy the picnic area close to the trailhead.

**Access:** Drive east on Hwy 228 or Hwy 20 to Sweet Home. Continue on Hwy 20 east for 24 more miles to Squaw Creek Road (2044) and turn right. Continue .25 mile and turn right down the House Rock Campground road. Park in the lot to your right just before the bridge.




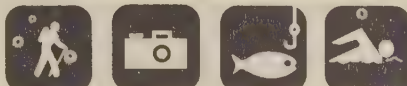
We have attempted to make this hiker's guide as accurate as possible. In our familiarity with the Forest, however, a landmark or direction may have been overlooked that may assist the hiker. Therefore it is always advisable to stop at a Ranger Station to obtain maps and the latest information about the trail you will be using. And, if you find places where this guide can be improved, or if you find places of interest or significance that should be pointed out to others, please let us know. Forest Service offices are listed on the inside back cover.

One question that is frequently asked by beginning hikers: How long does it take to hike a trail? A good rule of thumb is to **allow 30 minutes for each mile of travel.**

## FALL CREEK #3455

Map # **23**

Length: 13.7 miles  
Difficulty: Easy to Mod.  
District: Lowell

Season:   
User: 

Designated as a National Recreation trail, Fall Creek Trail offers short or long hikes by combining one or more of its 5 trailheads. Generally level, it has a few short, steep sections along the entire length. Stop at one of the many bridges spanning Fall Creek's cascading tributaries and listen to the rushing stream and watch for dippers, bobbing under the water's surface. Take advantage of the many chances for fishing, swimming, or picnicking beneath the lofty forest canopy.

**Access:** Drive Hwy 58 S.E. of Eugene, 18 miles to the town of Lowell. From the Lowell Ranger Station, drive 2 miles on the Jasper Lowell Road and turn right at Unity (covered bridge). Continue approximately 10 miles along the north shore road (which turns into Forest Road 18) to reach the lower trailhead across from Dolly Varden Campground. Other trailheads are located further upstream at the Johnny Creek Trailhead, Bedrock Campground, just up FS Road 1828 and up FS Road 1833.

## LITTLE NORTH SANTIAM #3338

Map # **1**

Length: 4.2 miles  
Difficulty: Easy  
District: Detroit

Season:   
User: 

One of the most beautiful hikes on the Detroit District leads you along the Little North Santiam River, past cascading falls and through an old-growth forest of Douglas-fir and western hemlock. A part of the Opal Creek grove, many of these trees are well over 500 years old. Stop to cool off on a hot summer day in one of the river's numerous pools.

**Access:** #1. From Salem, drive east on Hwy 22 and turn left on Little North Fork Road (2209). To access first trailhead, follow Road 2209 to Elkhorn. Turn right on Spur Road 201 and follow it to the trailhead.

#2. To access second trailhead, stay on Road 2209 to the fork in the road. Take the right fork (Road 2207) to the parking area just before the Shady Cove Bridge. Park and walk across bridge to trailhead.

# WATER TRAILS



## LEONE LAKE #3367

Map # **3**

Length: 0.6 miles  
Difficulty: Moderate  
District: Detroit

Season: 

User: 

A short, meandering hike through a shady second-growth forest leads to Leone Lake. Try your hand at fishing for rainbow and eastern brook trout which are reported to be over 18 inches long! Picnic lunches go perfectly beside this quiet little lake.

**Access:** From Salem, follow Hwy 22 to the town of Detroit. Take Road 46 out of Detroit to Cleator Bend and turn right across the bridge. Continue about 4 more miles to Spur Road 847 and turn left. The trailhead is to your right near top of the grade.

## LARISON CREEK #3646

Map # **31**

Length: 6.3 miles  
Difficulty: Easy  
District: Rigdon

Season: 

User: 

Starting on the Larison Creek arm of Hills Creek Reservoir, the first 2 miles of the trail cross a relatively open area. Further up, the trail is engulfed by lush vegetation, including old-growth Douglas-fir, big leaf maple, western red and incense cedars. Children especially enjoy this beautiful hike.

**Access:** Follow Hwy 58 southeast of Eugene to Oakridge. Two miles east of Oakridge, look for the Hills Creek Reservoir sign; turn right. Continue along this road for .5 mile, then turn right onto FS Road 21. It is 3.3 miles up FS Road 21 to the lower trailhead.

## MIDDLE FORK #3609

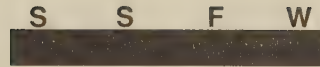
Map # **32**

Length: 5.0 miles

Difficulty: Easy

District: Rigdon

Season:



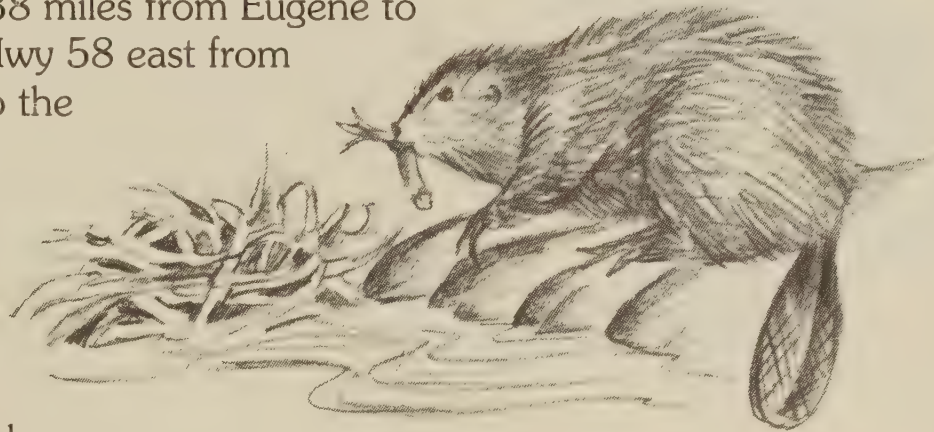
User:



This 5-mile section of trail will soon extend 30 miles along the Middle Fork of the Willamette River. FS Road 21 offers several access points to the Middle Fork Trail which is an easy hike or a fun bike ride.

Paralleling the river, it offers access for great fishing, as well as wildlife viewing. Keep a sharp lookout for deer, elk, kingfishers, mallards, herons, beaver and lizards. Dainty spring flowers and bright autumn colors add a seasonal delight, requiring more than one trip a year to fully enjoy this trail.

**Access:** Drive the 38 miles from Eugene to Oakridge. Follow Hwy 58 east from Oakridge 2 miles, to the Hills Creek Reservoir sign; turn right. After .5 miles, turn right onto FS Road 21 and continue for 12 miles to the trailhead.



## CRESCENT MOUNTAIN #3384

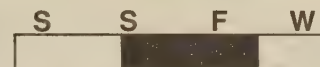
Map # **5**

Length: 4.0 miles

Difficulty: Moderate

District: Sweet Home

Season:

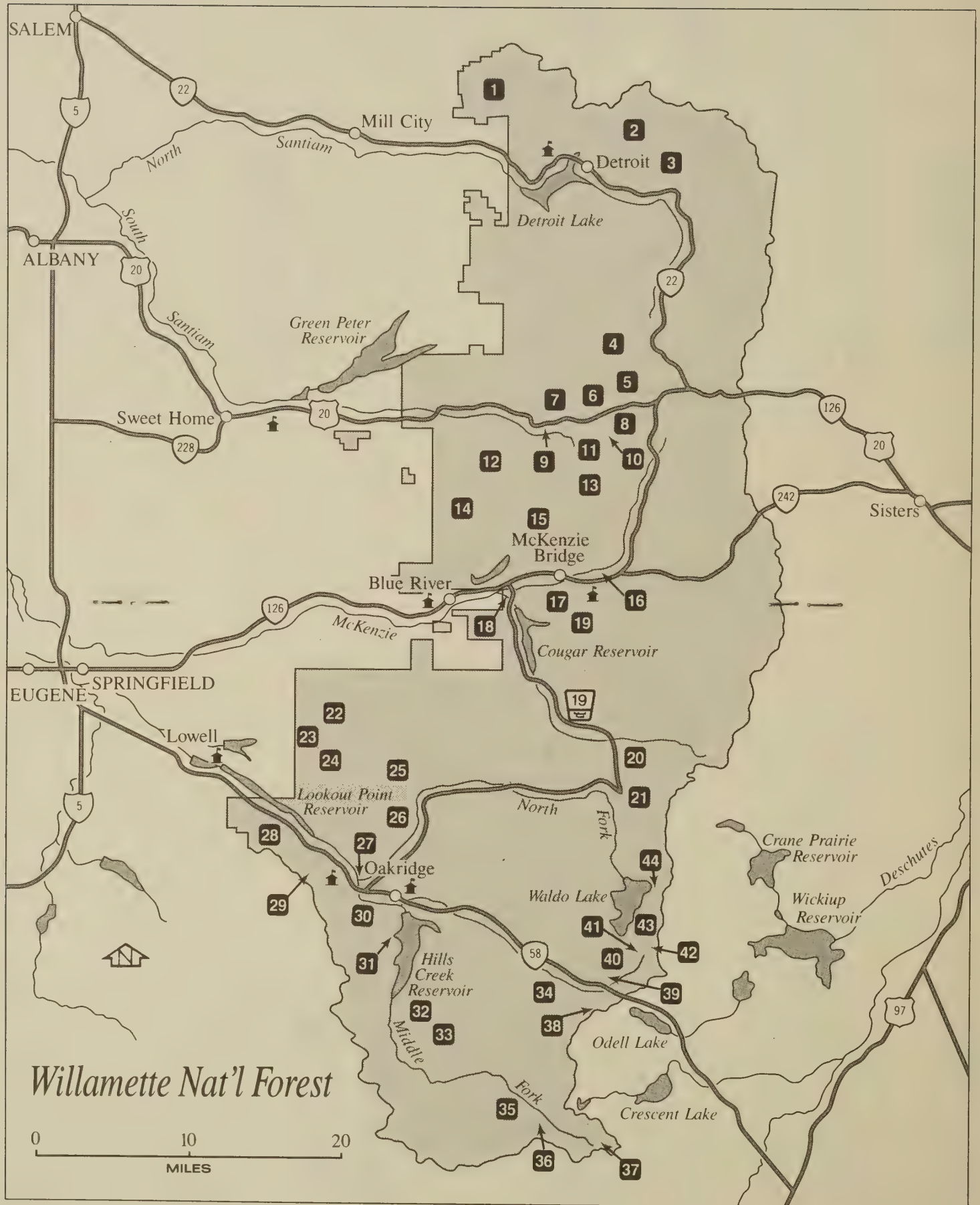


User:



Gently sloping downward toward Maude Creek, this trail is a pleasant hike beneath a peaceful fir forest. After crossing the creek, the trail switchbacks up through a shady forest, emerging into a large open hillside carpeted with wildflowers in the spring. Unobstructed views of the Cascade Range greet you as you reach the top.

**Access:** From I-5 drive east on Hwy 126 or Hwy 20 to Sweet Home. Continue 40 more miles east on Hwy 20 and turn left on Lava Lake Road (2067). Continue to Spur Road 508, turn left, and drive .5 miles to the trailhead on the right.










## BETTY LAKE # 3664

Map # **41**

Length: 1.7 miles

Difficulty: Easy

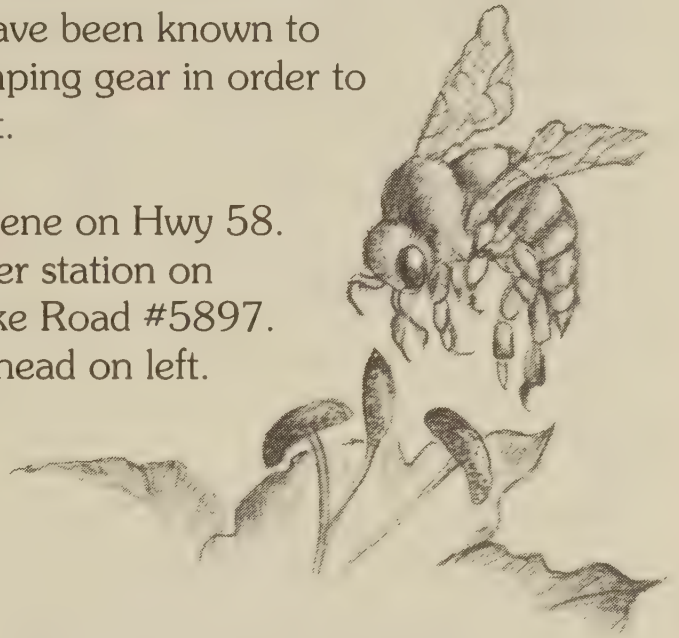
District: Oakridge

Season: 

User: 

Leaving Waldo Lake Road, the Betty Lake Trail follows easy grades for .25 miles to the lake. From the lake the trail continues for 1.5 miles to where it meets Waldo Lake Trail #3590. Those individuals strong of back have been known to carry in light fishing boats and camping gear in order to catch the wiley early morning trout.

**Access:** Proceed southeast of Eugene on Hwy 58. Continue from the Oakridge Ranger station on Hwy 58 for 27 miles to Waldo Lake Road #5897. Follow 5897 for 5.5 miles to trailhead on left.



## MCKENZIE RIVER #3507


Map # **16**

Length: 27 miles

Difficulty: Easy

District: McKenzie

Season: 

User: 

The McKenzie River National Recreation Trail provides camping, fishing, photography, exploring, wildlife viewing, and just plain sitting, by one of the prettiest rivers in the Northwest. The terrain is relatively gentle, however hiking boots are recommended when traversing the old lava flows. Portions of the trail, typically the lower 8-10 miles remain snow free, and are suitable for year-around use.

**Access:** Follow Hwy 126 east of Eugene for 50 miles. The trail begins approximately 1.5 miles east of the community of McKenzie Bridge and meanders beside the upper McKenzie River for the next 27 miles. Eleven parking areas scattered along Hwy 126 provide many convenient access points to the trail. Trailheads are clearly marked and the trail is readily accessible from most of Hwy 126.

## DIAMOND CREEK FALLS #3598




Map # **34**

Length: 2.5 miles

Difficulty: Moderate

District: Oakridge

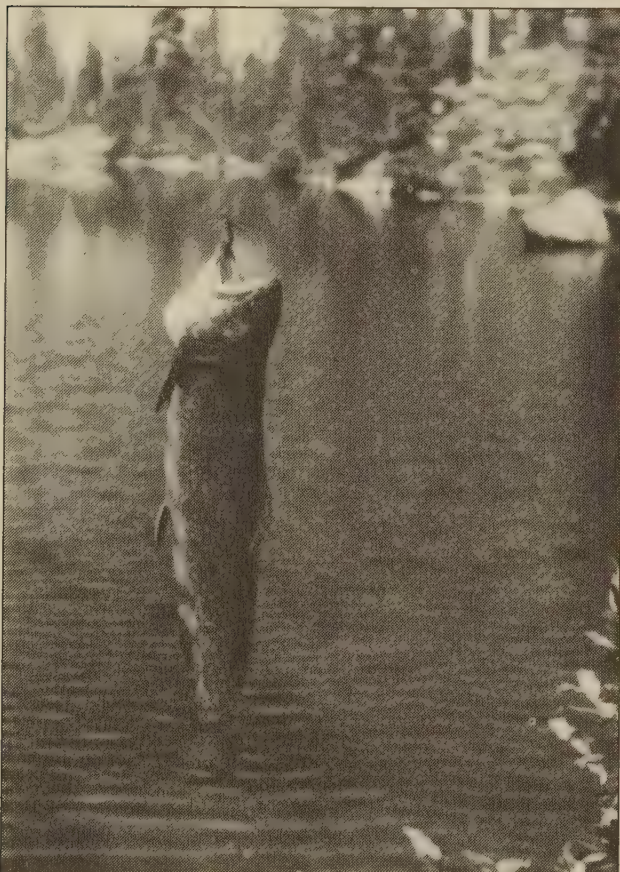
Season:  S  S  F  W

User:   

Beginning at the bridge, this scenic loop follows the canyon rims of Salt and Diamond Creek. Beautiful, cascading Diamond Creek Falls is on the outer end of the loop, and several viewpoints along the rim expose views of other sparkling falls and Salt Creek canyon. From Upper Diamond Creek Falls, the trail climbs a short distance to meet Vivian Lake Trail #3662 before descending eastward, returning to Salt Creek Falls.

For the more adventurous hiker there is a challenging, .25-mile side trail leading to the base of Upper Diamond Creek Falls. Access to Fall Creek Falls is via the Vivian Lake Trail #3662. The falls are about 1.5 miles (mostly uphill) from the Diamond Creek Falls Trail.

**Access:** From the town of Oakridge, proceed east 22 miles on Hwy 58 to the Salt Creek Falls turn-off, Road 5893. The observation site and parking are about 1 mile from the Hwy 58 junction. Turn right on Road 5893-010 just before the bridge crossing Salt Creek.



*Rainbow trout caught in a mountain lake.*

# VISTAS



## HARDESTY #3469

Map # **28**

Length: 6.0 miles  
Difficulty: Difficult  
District: Lowell

Season: A horizontal bar with four segments labeled S, S, F, and W from left to right. The second segment (S) is shaded black, while the others are white.

User: Four circular icons in a row: a hiker with a backpack, a person riding a horse, a bicycle, and two evergreen trees.

Climbing over 3,000 feet in 5 miles, Hardesty Mountain Trail is one of the oldest routes on the Lowell Ranger District. Constructed in 1910, it accessed the summit fire lookout for 48 years until the lookout was dismantled in 1968. Three trails use Hardesty as a trailhead: one-quarter mile out the Goodman Trail #3461A takes off on the right; .5 mile beyond that the South Willamette Trail #3465 forks to the left; the Eula Ridge Trail #3463 enters on the left after 4.5 miles. The Hardesty cut-off trail is just below the summit.

The lower section winds through impressive old-growth Douglas-fir before reaching FS Road 5835. A short walk up the road and you rejoin the trail. Trees, once cut to provide good views for the lookout, limit the views from the summit.

**Access:** #1. The lower trailhead is on Hwy 58, approximately 27 miles southeast of Eugene.

#2. Follow Hwy 58 east from Lowell Junction about 10 miles to FS Road 5840 and turn right. Continue 5 miles to spur 550, which serves as an access to the summit (about 2 miles).

## GOLD POINT #3468

Map # **25**

Length: 4.3 miles  
Difficulty: Difficult  
District: Lowell

Season: 

User:



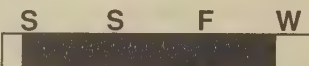
From the lower trailhead, switchbacks climb up out of Logan Creek Valley to the ridge. Along the ridge the trail strings together rocky outcrops, dry, open meadows and open forest. The .5-mile trail to the top of Gold Point forks to the left, less than one-quarter mile before the end of the trail at FS Road #1835-365. Once the site of a fire lookout, trees now block many of the views on top. However, views east still exist at a open meadow below the summit.

**Access:** From Eugene, follow Hwy 58 east. Continue for about 14 miles to the covered bridge, turn left to Lowell. Drive past the Lowell Ranger Station on the Jasper-Lowell road to Unity Bridge, turn right. Continue along Forest Road 18 up Fall Creek about 17 miles to FS Road 1825, turn right. After 2 miles, turn left onto FS Road 1835 and continue about .5 miles to spur 220, turn left. The trailhead is .5 miles up this spur, on the left.

## ALPINE #3450

Map # **27**

Length: 5.5 miles  
Difficulty: Moderate  
District: Oakridge

Season: 

User:




The first 3 miles, open all year, make a good winter time outing. The trail traverses a ridge, climbing moderately, and passes through private, logged over land before entering meadows. It then crosses Forest Road 5828 and runs back and forth between spur road 585 and the forest canopy. The trail uses an old road before crossing Forest Road 5828 again, near the junction with spur road 687. Leaving the road behind, it contours just below Buckhead Mountain for over a mile before coming out onto an old harvest unit, with excellent views to the east. The view includes stretches of Oakridge, Westfir, High Prairie, and Deception Creek. It then crosses road 1910-683 and continues for 7 more miles on the Lowell Ranger District.


**Access:** Follow Hwy 58 for 35 miles S.E. to the Westfir exit (east from Oakridge Ranger Station) on Road 19. Turn left at Hemlock on FS Road #5821. Continue through Hemlock (about 1 mile) to the trailhead.

## FRISSELL #3512

Map # 15

Length: 2.5 miles  
Difficulty: Difficult  
District: McKenzie

Season: 

User: 

The Frissell Trail, out of the way and slightly used, is perfect for adventurous souls. It climbs continuously to Frissell Ridge and rewards the hiker with outstanding vistas of the McKenzie Valley. It is maintained every two years and can sometimes be overgrown.

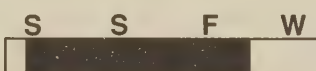
**Access:** Drive east from Eugene on Hwy 126, about 7 miles beyond Blue River to the “dump road” (refuse disposal site). Turn onto it and stay right on FS Road #2633-705. After about 1 mile, the road forks, keep right on FS Road #3633-700. At the junction of the private road, turn left onto FS Road 2633-704. A little over .5 miles the road ends at the trailhead.



## CARPENTER MOUNTAIN #3302

Map # 13

Length: 1.0 miles  
Difficulty: Moderate  
District: Blue River

Season: 

User: 

This short hike leads to the top of Carpenter Mountain, which boasts one of the few remaining, intact historical lookout towers on the Forest. The lookout was built in 1935 by the CCC's. (We ask that you help preserve your heritage by not tampering with the structure.) From this vantage point, there is an incredible view of the McKenzie River Valley, Wolf Rock, Cascade Crest, Mt. Jefferson, Three Fingered Jack, Mt. Washington, and the Three Sisters.

**Access:** From Eugene, follow Hwy 126 east to Blue River. Continue east on Hwy 126, 2.5 miles to Road 15 and turn left. After 3.5 more miles, turn right on Road 1506. Follow this road to Spur Road 350 and turn left. The trailhead is at the end of the road on the right.

## CHUCKSNEY MOUNTAIN LOOP #3306

Map # **21**

Length: 6.5 miles  
Difficulty: Moderate  
District: Blue River

Season: 

User: 

It is a 2-mile climb (an elevation of 2,000 feet in those 2 miles) up the Grasshopper Trail # 3569, to reach the Chucksney Mountain Trailhead. Keep to the right at the junction, and continue on through large meadows, scattered with bright wildflowers. At the top of the 5,760' peak awaits a remarkable view of the South Fork of the McKenzie River drainage and the Three Sisters. Follow the loop trail back to the Grasshopper Trail (#3569) and Box Canyon Horse Camp.

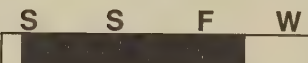


**Access:** From Eugene, follow Hwy 126 to Blue River. Continue east on Hwy 126 a short distance to Road 19 (Aufderheide Forest Drive) and turn right. Follow Road 19 for 32 miles to Box Canyon Horse Camp and turn right. You will start your hike on the Grasshopper Trail (#3569) which begins to your right.

## GRASSHOPPER #3569

Map # **20**

Length: 13.5 miles  
Difficulty: Difficult  
District: Blue River

Season: 

User: 

The first 3.8 miles climbs steadily for a gain of almost 2,000 feet, to the junction of the Chucksney Mountain Trail. Stay left, through the open meadows filled with dancing spring wildflowers. Located within the Chucksney Mountain Roadless Recreation Area, this trail offers excellent opportunities for solitude and scenic views. This is summer range for deer and elk, so travel quietly and keep alert to increase your chances for seeing them.

**Access:** From Eugene, follow Hwy 126 to Blue River. Continue east on Hwy 126, 3.5 miles and turn right on Road 19 (Aufderheide Forest Drive). Travel 32 miles to the Box Canyon Horse Camp and turn right. The trailhead is located on your right.

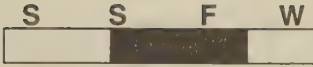
## PYRAMID #3380

Map # 4

Length: 4.2 miles

Difficulty: Difficult

District: Sweet Home

Season: 

User:  

Climbing begins immediately up steep wooded slopes, interspersed with broad open meadows. Near the top, rocky crags are covered with many species of alpine plants providing spectacular spring color. Remains of the Three Pyramids Lookout, built in 1934, lay scattered about the peak. Here, diligent hikers are rewarded with impressive views of the Cascade Range.

**Access:** From I-5 drive east on Hwy 228 or Hwy 20 to Sweet Home. Continue east on Hwy 20 for 40.5 miles to Lava Lake Road (2067) and turn left. Turn right on spur road 560. The trailhead is about 5 miles from here on the left just past spur road 572.



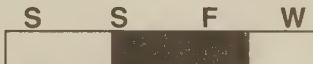
## TIDBITS MOUNTAIN #3398

Map # 14

Length: 1.4 miles

Difficulty: Moderate

District: Sweet Home

Season: 

User:  

Beginning in a young stand of trees, this trail quickly climbs through second-growth true fir to reach the top of Tidbits Mountain. There are remains of an old fire lookout, first built in 1926 and used through the early 1960's, on top of the peak. The view of the Cascade Range is great from this 5,185-foot perch.

**Access:** From I-5 drive east on Hwy 228 or Hwy 20 to Sweet Home. Continue east on Hwy 20 for 13.5 miles and turn right on Canyon Creek Road (2022). Continue to Road 2026 and turn right. Follow Road 2026 to Spur Road 335, turn left, and continue a short distance to the trailhead on your right.


## LARISON ROCK #3607

Map # **30**

Length: 4.3 miles

Difficulty: Moderate

District: Rigdon

Season: 

User: 

Situated on a north facing slope, the Larison Rock Trail lies directly above the town of Oakridge. The quiet scene is dominated by old-growth Douglas-fir, cedar, hemlock, madrone, and dogwood. From the upper trailhead, it's a short hike to the top of Larison Rock, with a 360-degree panorama of the Oakridge and Rigdon Ranger Districts, the Three Sisters, and Diamond Peak. Caution: There is a 70-foot vertical drop on the west side of the rock.

**Access:** #1. From Eugene follow Hwy 58 to Oakridge. Continue on Hwy 58 for 2 miles east of Oakridge. Turn right onto the Hills Creek Reservoir Road. Continue for .5 miles and turn right onto FS Road 21. Proceed another .5 miles and turn right onto FS Road 5852. The trailhead is about another 2 miles.

#2. To reach the upper trailhead, proceed as above to FS Road 21. Continue about .5 miles and turn right onto 2102. Follow this road 4 miles to the trailhead sign.



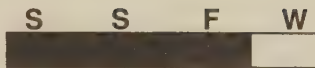
*Enjoy the many flowers as you hike. (Dogwood)*



## UPPER CASTLE ROCK #3506.2

Map # 17

Length: 1.8 miles  
Difficulty: Moderate  
District: Blue River

Season:  A horizontal bar divided into four segments labeled S, S, F, and W. The first three segments (S, S, F) are black, and the fourth segment (W) is white.

User:  A row of five circular icons: a hiker, a person on a horse, a bicycle, a motorcycle, and a camera.

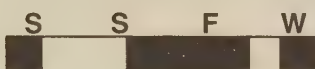
This trail splits close to the trailhead; take the right fork. Follow shady switchbacks through a cool forest canopy to reach the top of Castle Rock, where the remains of an old fire lookout can still be found. An unequalled panoramic view of the McKenzie River Valley and Cascade Peaks makes this trip worthwhile.

**Access:** From Eugene, follow Hwy 126 to Blue River. Continue east on Hwy 126 for 3.5 miles and turn right on Road 19 (Aufderheide Forest Drive). Stay to the left at the stop sign. In .5 miles, turn left onto Road 2639 (King Road). Continue for .5 miles and turn right onto Spur Road 480. The trailhead starts at the end of the road.

## FUJI MOUNTAIN #3674

Map # 40

Length: 6.1 miles  
Difficulty: Moderate  
District: Oakridge

Season:  A horizontal bar divided into four segments labeled S, S, F, and W. The first two segments (S, S) are black, the third segment (F) is white, and the fourth segment (W) is black.

User:  A row of four circular icons: a hiker, a person on a horse, a bicycle, and a camera.

From Waldo Lake Road #3597, this trail climbs steeply to a postcard view of Birthday Lake. From the lake the trail climbs to a junction with South Waldo Trail #3586. Continue past this junction for .7 miles and reach a second junction. Keep to the right if you want to make Mt. Fuji's 7,144-foot peak. From the peak, the 360° view includes Waldo Lake, Diamond Peak, and the Three Sisters. The trail to the left descends .25 miles to Forest Road 5883. When the snow flies, bring your skis, for this trail also serves as a cross-country ski route.

**Access:** #1. Proceed east from Eugene on Hwy 58 to Oakridge. Continue on Hwy 58 for 27 miles to Waldo Lake Road #5897. Follow it for 2 miles to the trailhead.

#2. From Eugene travel east on Hwy 58 through the town of Oakridge. Continue on 58 for another 18 miles, and turn left onto Eagle Creek Road #5883. Continue for 10 miles to the trailhead.

## HEMLOCK BUTTE #3620

Map # **38**

Length: 0.7 miles  
Difficulty: Moderate  
District: Rigdon

Season: 

S	S	F	W
---	---	---	---

User:  

This short trail skirts stately, mature trees, clumps of bunchgrass, and patches of huckleberries. Vistas from the top offer fabulous views of Mt. Yoran, Diamond Peak, and the Rigdon Ranger District.



**Access:** Follow Hwy 58 southeast from Eugene to Oakridge. Proceed east from Oakridge on Hwy 58 for 2 miles. Turn right at the Hills Creek Reservoir sign. Follow FS Road 23 about 18 miles to the trailhead, on the right.

### **INFORMATION ABOUT WILDERNESS**

The Willamette National Forest contains eight Wilderness areas. In addition to the 44 trails listed in this brochure, the Forest has hundreds of miles of trails criss-crossing Wilderness areas.

Because vast numbers of visitors use the more popular wilderness trails, many areas are in serious danger of being “loved to death.” This brochure contains **NO WILDERNESS** trails. Instead, we’ve included some of the many other Forest trails, where people can find a variety of experiences.

If you want to hike on wilderness trails, call the District Office managing the area for more information. Permits are required in some wilderness areas for day and overnight use.


## MAIDEN PEAK #3681

Map # **39**

Length: 1.8 miles

Difficulty: Difficult

District: Oakridge

Season: 

User:



Right from the start, the trail begins to climb. It soon levels out to a gradual uphill grade, with good views of nearby hills and valleys. It crosses Skyline Creek and the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail before reaching a dry flat. The trail climbs again; steeply at first, then gradually, as it passes through rocks and around small, snow-fed ponds. Once again the grade steepens as the trail climbs up the west side of Maiden Peak. Momentary relief comes at a small meadow where the trail levels as it passes through stunted, windblown trees. With the trees below you, the trail picks its way through “rubble rock,” past a small crater, and finally along a ridge for the final accent to the top of Maiden Peak. At the top, turn slowly and view the 360° panorama of the Cascade Range.

**Access:** From Eugene, proceed southeast on Hwy 58. Continue east past the Oakridge Ranger Station for 29 miles to Gold Lake Road #500. Turn left onto it and continue for 1.5 miles to the trailhead, on the right.

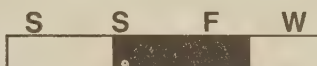
## TWIN PEAKS #3595

Map # **43**

Length: 3.3 miles

Difficulty: Difficult

District: Oakridge

Season: 

User:



Beginning at Waldo Lake Road #5897, this trail gradually climbs 2 miles to reach the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCNST) #2000. After crossing the PCNST, the grade steepens and the trail wraps around the south side of Twin Peaks. Toward the top, the trail climbs up pumice slopes to the summit. Vistas from the top includes Cowhorn, Diamond Peak, Three Sisters, Mt. Bachelor, and Broken Top. **MOUNTAIN BIKERS—LEAVE YOUR BIKES AT THE END OF THE TRAIL TREAD: DO NOT TAKE MOUNTAIN BIKES TO THE SUMMIT THROUGH THE PUMICE.**

**Access:** Follow Hwy 58 southeast from the city of Eugene toward Oakridge. Proceed east from Oakridge Ranger Station on Hwy 58 for another 27 miles to Waldo Lake Road # 5897. Follow FS Road 5897 for 6 miles to the trailhead, which is on the right.

# SPECIAL INTEREST AREA TRAILS


## MOON POINT #3688

Map # **33**

Length: 1.1 miles

Difficulty: Easy

District: Rigdon

Season: 

User:



Moon Point Trail leads the hiker to a unique area known for its botanical variety and habitat diversity. It crosses wet and dry meadows, rocky cliffs, and passes through stands of high-elevation conifers. Wildlife love the area, so use your eyes and ears. Moon Point, once the site of a fire lookout, offers a panoramic view of the Rigdon District. It also joins the Youngs Rock Trail, which accesses the Middle Fork of the Willamette River.

**Access:** From Eugene travel 38 miles on Hwy 58 to Oakridge. Continue on Hwy 58 for 2 miles east of Oakridge to the Hills Creek Reservoir sign. Turn right and follow for .5 miles and turn right onto FS Road 21. Proceed on Road 21 for 18 miles to the junction with FS Road 2129, turn left. Follow Road 2129 for about 9 miles to the trailhead on the right.

## CONE PEAK #3408

Map # **6**

Length: 3.3 miles

Difficulty: Moderate

District: Sweet Home

Season: 

User:



A gentle grade leads you through a shaded forest onto open hillsides, bursting with flowers in the spring and summer. The upper portions of this trail reward you with extensive views of the surrounding Cascade Range. At mile 3.3, this trail joins the Iron Mountain Trail. Here you have the option of returning the way you came, climbing another 1.5 miles to the top of Iron Mountain, or descending to Hwy 20, and returning to your car back up the highway.

**Access:** From I-5 drive east on Hwy 228 or Hwy 20 to Sweet Home. Continue east on Hwy 20 from Sweet Home for 35 miles to the large paved parking area at the summit of Tombstone Pass. The trailhead is .2 miles back down and across the highway.

## MIDDLE FORK #3609

Map # 35

Length: 1.5 miles

Difficulty: Easy

District: Rigdon

Season:  S  S  F  W

User:



This enchanting section of the Middle Fork Trail begins at Chuckle Springs and follows the river to Indigo Springs. Stately old growth shades all beneath during hot summer days and several cold, bubbling springs entice you to take off your shoes and rest a while. The trail meanders through mixed conifers, cottonwood, and big leaf maple. The roar of the Middle Fork drowns the sound of your footsteps as you enjoy the scenes along this splashing river.

**Access:** Follow Hwy 58 east of Oakridge 2 miles to the Hills Creek Reservoir sign; turn right. After .5 miles, turn right onto FS Road 21 and continue for 30 miles to the Chuckle Springs sign. Turn right onto FS Road 21-404 and proceed .5 miles to the trailhead.



*Mountain bikers enjoy a ride on the Middle Fork Trail near Oakridge.*

# JOHNNY CREEK NATURE #3454

Map # **24**

Length: 0.7 miles

Season: **S S F W**

Difficulty: Easy

District: Lowell

User: 

**Barrier-free difficulty: Easy**

Constructed with the aid of local Lions Club members, this loop nature trail opens the forest to people with disabilities. The flat, paved tread winds between areas dense with ferns and salal, Douglas-fir that touch the sky, and old, mossy, plant-covered logs. Large print, routed interpretive signs enhance the trail users' appreciation for the surrounding forest. Linger for lunch in the picnic area at the trailhead.

**Access:** Take Hwy 58 from Eugene to the small community of Lowell. From the Lowell Ranger Station, drive 2 miles north on the Jasper-Lowell Road. Turn right at Unity (covered bridge) and continue about 15 miles on the Fall Creek Road (turns into FS Road 18). Turn right at FS Road 1821 and the trailhead is just up the road on the left.

*A visitor on the Johnny Creek Nature Trail.*




## CLARK BUTTE #3456A

Map # **22**

Length: 2.2 miles

Difficulty: Difficult

District: Lowell

Season: 

User: 

Enjoy the first .5 miles of the Clark Creek Nature Trail, which provides access to the Clark Butte Trail. Be sure to continue straight as the nature trail swings off to the left. As the trail climbs, the typical low-elevation forest of sword fern and moss-heavy trees is replaced by vegetation that can survive on dry, rocky ridges. Before the trail ends on FS Road 1817, you cross spur roads 1817-410 and 417. This is a good place to get above the gray valley fog.

**Access:** Follow Hwy 58 southeast of Eugene to the Lowell turnoff. From the Lowell Ranger Station, drive 2 miles north on the Jasper-Lowell Road. Turn right at Unity (covered bridge) and continue 12.8 miles on the Fall Creek Road (turns into FS Road 18). Turn left like you were entering Clark Creek Organizational Camp and park in the Clark Creek Nature Trail parking area on the left. The trailhead is .5 miles up Clark Creek Nature Trail: it swings left, Clark Butte stays straight (left).


## IRON MOUNTAIN #3389


Map # **7**

Length: 1.6 miles

Difficulty: Difficult

District: Sweet Home

Season: 

User: 

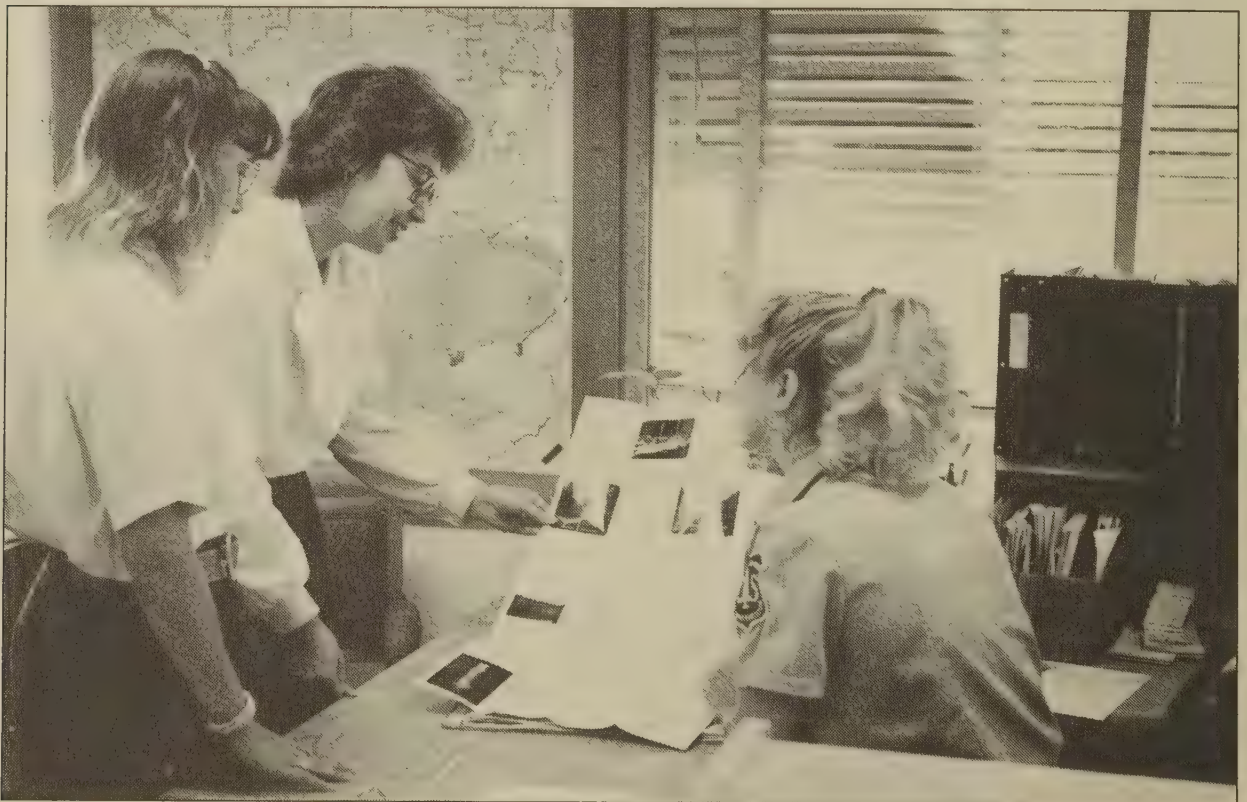
Set aside for its botanical qualities, over 300 species of flowering plants share their beauty throughout the summer season. Trail users have a rare opportunity to see 18 different plant communities on Iron Mountain. The trail climbs amidst alpine meadows and timber before reaching bare volcanic rock on the peak. A working Forest Service fire lookout is open during the summer.

**Access:** From I-5 drive east on Hwy 228 or Hwy 20 to Sweet Home. Continue east on Hwy 20 for 34 miles to Road 15 and turn right. The parking area is to your right and the trailhead is located across the road. A second access is off of Hwy 20 via Civil Road (035). Turn left on Civil Road from Hwy 20 and follow it to the end. The trail is 1.5 miles long from here.

## OTHER RESOURCES AVAILAIBLE AT THE WILLAMETTE NATIONAL FOREST:

- **T.R.I.S. (Trails Resource Information System)**
- **Recreation Opportunity Guide Books (ROG'S)**
- **USDA Forest Maps**
- **Wilderness Maps**
- **Northwest Interpretive Association materials**
- **Trail Brochures**
- **Mountain Bike Information**
- **Campground Information**
- **Receptionist**

*You are welcome to use the many resources available at our National Forest information offices.*





# THE RESPONSIBLE TRAIL USER

The following information is taken from a leaflet produced by the Mountaineers of Seattle, WA. in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service.

## **KNOW: What is a water bar?**

Those half buried logs diagonally across the trail, held in place by stakes, are called "water bars." To function, the uphill side must be able to catch the water and keep the lower end free of debris to prevent erosion.

## **KNOW: The reasons for switchbacks?**

Switchbacks are used on trails to reduce the grade and to prevent erosion. Cutting switchbacks creates a severe erosion problem, which damages the land. First the vegetation vanishes, then, the topsoil washes off which narrows the trail tread. The process continues until the trail is washed out and bare rock is exposed.

## **WHAT TO DO ABOUT: Cairns?**

Keep the pile of stones used for landmarks intact.

## **WHAT TO DO ABOUT: Litter?**

Pick it up and carry it out!

## **WHAT TO DO ABOUT: Water in the trail?**

Using the heel of your boot or a stick, make a drain channel for the water to flow off the trail.

## **WHAT TO DO ABOUT: Debris on the trail?**

Move off the trail and scatter on the lower side. Several people can usually move small trees off the trail.

# NOTES

THE WILSON FOREST:

The forest is composed of a variety of trees, including oak, maple, and birch. The ground is covered with a thick layer of fallen leaves and twigs.

There are many small animals living in the forest, including squirrels, chipmunks, and birds. The forest is a very quiet place.

The forest is a very beautiful place. The trees are tall and green, and the ground is covered with a thick layer of fallen leaves. The forest is a very peaceful place.

The forest is a very important place. It provides a home for many animals and plants. The forest is a very beautiful place.

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Willamette National Forest  
Supervisor's Office  
211 E. Seventh Avenue  
P.O. Box 10607  
Eugene, Oregon 97440  
465-6521

## **RANGER STATIONS**

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Detroit Ranger Station  
HC73, Box 320  
Mill City, OR 97360  
Phone: 854-3366

Sweet Home Ranger Station  
3225 Highway 20  
Sweet Home, OR 97386  
Phone: 367-5168

McKenzie Ranger Station  
McKenzie Bridge, OR 97413  
Phone: 822-3381

Blue River Ranger Station  
Blue River, Oregon 97413  
Phone: 822-3317

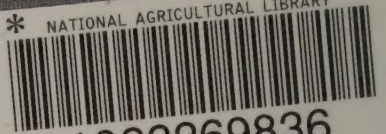
Lowell Ranger Station  
Lowell, OR 97452  
Phone: 937-2129

Oakridge Ranger Station  
46375 Highway 58  
Westfir, OR 97492  
Phone: 782-2291

Rigdon Ranger Station  
49098 Salmon Creek Road  
Oakridge, OR 97463  
Phone: 782-2283

Oregon Area Code is 503

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